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FROM: Guatemala City

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 954, June 11, 5 p.m.

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Ambassador Funes, of Salvador, and I met privately today. He told me that he spent two hours with Arbenz and Toriello last evening. Arbenz wants to send Toriello to Salvador as his personal representative to discuss with Osorio the forthcoming OAS meeting and attempt to reach a mutual understanding between the two nations on all problems. Funes told Arbenz that he did not think the time was appropriate for such discussions and that he doubted seriously whether his President would be interested in such conversations. He commented that he had never seen Arbenz in such an agitated state of mind. Arbenz said that the Gringos were going to apply sanctions to Guatemala and that this would cause him grave difficulty, but somehow, some way he hoped to keep the Government afloat. Arbenz further said that the Gringo was looking for some excuse to divert public attention away from our failures in Geneva and was therefore picking on little Guatemala.

Funes confirmed that eight cadets had left the military academy and had gone out of the country. He further said that he had ten refugees now in his Embassy, which he hoped to get out tomorrow but expected to see back here soon in some other capacity. He stated 325 persons under secret arrest.

PEURIFOY

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